

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08381 252134Z

12
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-05 L-01 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 EB-04 COME-00 MC-01 /044 W
----- 128103

R 251856Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2304
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CJCS
SEC USAF
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 8381

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS MARR BE NL DA NO
SUBJECT: F-104 REPLACEMENT: FUTURE OF FOUR-NATION CONSORTIUM

1. ON OCTOBER 22 BOLAND, CHIEF EXPERT ON INDUSTRIAL
COMPENSATION MATTERS IN BELGIAN MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS,
TOLD LEON, US DEPT OF COMMERCE, AND EMBASSY OFFICER THAT
HE ANTICIPATES THAT THE FOUR-NATION LIGHTWEIGHT FIGHTER
PROGRAM STEERING GROUP WILL SOON REPORT THAT ALL FOUR
CONTENDER AIRCRAFT WOULD SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE
CONSORTIUM COUNTRIES, AND THAT EACH OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES
SHOULD THEREAFTER BE FREE TO NEGOTIATE THE BEST ARRANGEMENT
FOR ITSELF WITH ANY ONE OF THE MANUFACTURERS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08381 252134Z

2. OTHER BELGIAN SOURCES DENY THIS. LEFEBVRE, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, SAID THE STEERING GROUP IS CONTINUING ITS WORK AND THAT NO END IS FORESEEN TO THE CONSORTIUM. BOES, OF PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS' OFFICE, TOLD US ESSENTIALLY THE SAME THING, CITING IN PARTICULAR THE ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGES LIKELY IF BELGIUM WERE NEGOTIATING ALONE. FINALLY, DAVIGNON, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FLATLY DENIED THAT THE CONSORTIUM WAS BREAKING UP OR THAT BELGIUM WAS CONSIDERING MAKING A DEAL SEPARATELY FROM IT. HE SAID THAT WHILE THE TECHNICAL GROUP MIGHT DISBAND AFTER ITS FINAL REPORT IS MADE, IT REMAINS THE POLICY OF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT TO WORK WITH THE OTHER THREE MEMBERS OF THE CONSORTIUM TO REACH AGREEMENT ON A SINGLE PLAN TO REPLACE THE F-104. HE SAID IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT TO GO AHEAD IF ITS CONSORTIUM PARTNERS DID NOT. HE ALSO THOUGHT IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY DIFFICULT FOR THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT TO CHOOSE A DIFFERENT AIRCRAFT THAN THE OTHERS.

3. WE SHALL BE SENDING BY SEPTTEL THE MEMCON OF THE CONVERSATION WITH BOLAND PLUS ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY BOES. RENNER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, COMMITTEES, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRUSSE08381
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740306-0579
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741017/aaaaaoeq.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06-Aug-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-104 REPLACEMENT: FUTURE OF FOUR-NATION CONSORTIUM
TAGS: MASS, MARR, BE, NL, DA, NO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005